



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Thomas E. SLOWE et al.

Appl. No. 09/956,971
Confirmation No. 6865

Filed: September 21, 2001

Art Unit: 2613

Examiner: David J. Czekaj

Atty. Docket No. 37112-173581

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.111 and 1.121

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the non-final Office Action (Office Action) dated **October 5, 2004**, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 3), Applicant submits the following Amendment and Reply.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are needed to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims), and any other fee deficiency, are hereby authorized to be charged, or any overpayments credited, to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Applicants: SLOWE et al.
Appl. No. 09/956,971

Amendments

Please enter the following amendments:

Amendments to the Specification begin at Page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin at Page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin at Page 13 of this paper and include both attached replacement sheets and annotated sheets showing changes made.

Remarks begin at Page 14 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following Page 19 of this paper.